(d) what are the reasons for non-consideration of these representations by Kelkar Committee and what are the grounds on which these drugs have been retained under price control; and

(e) what steps have been taken to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALRAO): (a) and (b) The required details to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The recommendations of the Kelkar Committee relating to inclusion of certain drugs under price control are yet to be examined by the Government.

(d) and (e) The drugs referred to in the question are already exempt from price control.

Vacant Posts in the Department of Chemicals

1590. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the posts of Advisor and Project Officer in the Department of Chemicals are lying vacant;

(b) if so, since when these posts have been lying vacant;

(c) what are the reasons for not filling up these posts on permanent basis;

(d) what is the total number of technical persons working in the office of the Development Commissioner;

(e) whether it is a fact that certain specific complaints of corrupt practices have been received by his Ministry about some of these technical officers; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Two posts of Advisor and one post of Project Officer are lying vacant since 9-2-86, 4-6-88 and 25-11-87 respectively.

(c) The posts of Advisor/Project Officer were circulated, but the response was inadequate and no candidate fulfilled the eligibility criteria *in toto*. Revised recruitment rules for all the posts in the technical wing of the Department are likely to be finalised shortly.

(d) The total number of Technical persons working in the office of Development Commissioner is four.

(e) and (f) Some complaints were received against one of the technical officers, which focussed on:

(i) Acceptance of hospitality of private sector drug companies during the foreign visit of the officer and his family in July-August, 1988;

(ii) Affording pecuniary advantages to some of the drug companies by his acts of omission and commission; and

(iii) Obtaining, for his relatives, the agencies of some drug companies. The Officer's comments on the complaint were obtained and were found satisfactory. Hence the matter was closed.

Distribution of the Imported drugs by IDPL

1591. SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that canalisation of imports of drugs and the distribution of those drugs which are in IDPL's range was approved by the Cabinet in 1970;

(b) whether his Ministry obtained any approval to the effect that IDPL can sell such drugs at indigenous prices and retain the difference between the indigenous price and landed cost of imports;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons for not working out the difference that accrued between 1970 and 1979; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to recover the amount under DPEA?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALRAO): (a) The Cabinet decision of April, 1970 only envisaged that distribution of such items of which IDPL are the major producers in the country could be entrusted to them.

(b) to (d) The DPEA came into existence in 1979, therefore, the question of recovery under DPEA for the period under mention, does not arise.

Mark up on price decontrolled Medicines

1592. SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee did not make any suggestion towards the ceiling on mark up in respect of non-scheduled and price decontrolled formulations; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the committee has also not suggested any overall ceiling on profits by drug companies as well as agency which would discharge these functions?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALRAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Maximum pretax return on sales turnover of formulators or importers of formulations for various units has already been prescribed in the Fifth Schedule of DPCO, 1987.

Non-acceptance of the views of the Members of Parliament

1593. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of drugs in respect of which views of Members of Parliament have not been accepted by Kelkar Committee and his Ministry;

(b) whether his Ministry has communicated the reasons to the concerned Members of Parliament; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALRAO): (a) to (c) The required details to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Price control on sulphamovole, Glipizide, Isoxsuprine and Hydroxyprogesterone

1594. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has not so far included Sulphamoxole, Glipizide, Isoxsuprine and Hydroxyprogesterone under price control;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and by when action will be taken in this regard;

(c) what was the price of each drug before DPCO, 1987 and what is the present price;

(d) whether any of these drugs are produced in the country; and

(e) if so, names of the producers and production of each during the last three years, yearwise?